

**Echegaray's widow dies but hospital keeping body**  
 By Marlene Bonifacio

THE WIDOW of the first senator in the history of the Philippines died of a heart attack on Wednesday night after having a blood transfusion on Jan. 9 because of severe high blood pressure.

# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

If all else fails, smile to break Guinness world record

By Christine Esguerra

A 41-year-old, single, 5'6" woman, 36,000 Filipinos were invited to participate in a Guinness world record attempt.



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# 'Freedom through peace'



ABOVE: President George W. Bush flanked by his wife, Laura, and Vice President Dick Cheney and his wife, Lynne, pose on the steps of the White House for the inauguration ceremony.

## Bush inaugural speech 'inspiring'

WASHINGTON—In a sky-bombardment with popovers under kitchen-like security, George W. Bush on Thursday began Chapter Two of his presidency with a call "beyond the stars" to stand steadfast for the cause of freedom around the world.

In his inaugural address, Bush said that events and common sense had led him to one conclusion: "The survival of liberty in our land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other lands. The hope for peace in our world is the expansion of freedom in all the world."

On Wednesday evening, before his address, Bush and his wife, Laura, and Vice President Dick Cheney and his wife, Lynne, posed on the steps of the White House.

## Guingona back in GMA camp, gets China post

By John Luyang-Juanilla, Christine O. Rosales, and Michael Lee

THEY found the leader, mellowed the tone, and made the transition. After three years after joining the Cabinet of President Manuel Arroyo due to differences over US military presence in the country, former Vice President Teodoro Guingona Jr. has been named ambassador to China.

## Miriam rues colonial mentality, seeks VFA review

By Christine O. Rosales

SEN. MIRIAM Defensor-Santiago yesterday lamented the colonial mentality that, she said, still existed among Filipinos as indicated by a recent UN World Survey global opinion poll.

"We are still colonial in many ways, and that explains much of our backwardness," she said. "The fact that the rest of the world viewed Bush's election as a danger 'because he was a substantial presence' is to be expected."

The senator, chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and an expert in international law, said she, for one, was "inspired" by Bush's declaration that "no one will ever again 'promptly self-defend'."

## 40TH DAY Susan links up with Poe's 3 kids

By Jo Ann

IF NINA's a beautiful scene, then here's the scene. There was Nina, a picture of a beautiful girl and companion. The two were a perfect fit. Susan, who had only been with Poe for a few months, was a perfect fit. Susan, who had only been with Poe for a few months, was a perfect fit. Susan, who had only been with Poe for a few months, was a perfect fit.

## Not our study, not our corruption list, ADB clarifies

THE ASIAN Development Bank yesterday said that it did not conduct the study that found the Philippines ranked second in corruption in the region.

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In a full report of the ADB study, the findings were based on the Global Corruption Report (GCR) 2006, which was based on the Annual Corruption Survey conducted by the World Economic Forum.

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## GMA calls for 'new kind of people power'

By John Luyang-Juanilla and Gil C. Calangui Jr.

SPENDING the fourth anniversary of her installation as Chief Executive with the people in this day of the Philippines, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo yesterday called for a "new kind of people power."



Ms. Arroyo said the new movement she called for was a "new kind of people power" that would be based on the principles of transparency, accountability, and integrity.

She said she was inspired by the people's power that brought about the fall of Ferdinand Marcos in 1986.

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# BUSINESS *Friday*

Business Features Editor  
Marilyn Quintanilla-Engle

## FARMERS' INCOME RISE TREMENDOUSLY

# Bicolano creates unique products from waste

By Michael B. Justice

PTV Southern Luzon Bureau

**GENOSARANA, Albino.**—Determined to help poor farmers, an agricultural engineer trained his eye on a waste product and created not only a source of livelihood but a product that helps the environment.

Justin Abolado, 34, created a soil amendment called soil control agent from coconut husk, which used to be treated as waste material.

Abolado developed coconut husk bio-fertilizer systems, the Abolado Enterprise, located at Bontigao Gap in Catanduanes.

Established in 1995, Abolado is now the number one exporter of soil control amendments.

To prosper markets are Japan, China, Europe, Germany and the United States of America.

### P80,000 capital

Abolado, a Bachelor degree holder in agriculture engineering from the Tokyo University in Japan and the longest serving dean of the Rural University College of Agriculture and Forestry (RUCAF) in the area, started with a P80,000 capital and a 4-hectare machine—a 4-milling machine used in gathering coconuts, which he borrowed from the Canadian government.

According to him, more he wanted the coconut husk business in September 2000 after returning to Rural area, at least 1,000 families have been benefiting from the coconut husk business not only in local

but also in other parts of the country. About 600 families are in Albino, 400 in Abolado, 200 in Misamis and 200 in South Cotabato.

Abolado disclosed that even locally served by the Abolado center at least P200 a day.

### Low income, no training

The idea of helping improve the life of farmers, especially coconut farmers, came upon Abolado's study on poverty in the area, which he conducted in 1995.

He found out that for every one hectare of coconut plantation, a farmer was trading his income per month was as low as P300, which was not sufficient for feeding the family's basic needs.

The agricultural engineer also found out, among other economic, that only some families of coconut farmers had a complete set of kitchen waste at home.

Abolado realized why the coconut farmers remained poor despite the vast supply of coconuts in the area.

He further discovered that farmers had a poor knowledge in coconut farming.

"Poor poor knowledge in farming, normally they do know what to do with their farms, that is the very reason why most of them engage only in copra trading, which is very tedious," Abolado says.

According to him, out of 900,000 farmers in the country last Dec. 1, 2000, 600,000 were involved in farming.

And so, with his capabilities and further knowledge, he taught coconut farmers how to maximize the use of coconuts by making other products, especially use of coconut husk.



ABOLADO with a coconut

### Unique products

Abolado says the coconut husk can be turned into mulch and unique variety of products.

And according to him, among the coconut husk products, the soccer, which cost P10 per square meter, is the most popular in local and international market.

He says the Abolado Enterprise produces at least 30,000 sqm of coconut a month although, he added, the production of coconuts depends on the counter-tactants.

Aside from the soil control agent, Abolado says, the other ones he produces Abolado makes are the stick floor mat (coconut husk used in making car mats and mattresses), which cost P50 a kilo, coconut husk (leaf conditioner), P70 a kilo, compost, P2 a piece, and coconut, P40 a piece.

Abolado distributes these products in department stores nationwide.

Abolado says the soil control agent is a highly valuable because buyers from the western countries had proven the economic value of the product.

He says he developed the soil control agent in 1995 in Germany.

### Breaker control

"The concept is the best device for controlling soil erosion because it is an object more durable than just," the agricultural engineer claimed.

Explaining how erosion is being controlled, he said the mulcher agent is a water absorber and binder.

"When the water runs through the soil, the water is absorbed and then flows directly to the ground," Abolado further explains.

He says one kilo of mulcher can absorb the equivalent in volume of at least ten kilos of water before it becomes a stream.

### Production pit

With the stable products that can be made from coconut husk is primarily Abolado, Abolado, Albino, Philippine Coconut Authority regional manager, says the PCA, in coordination with National Economic Development Authority and through the

Abolado Enterprise, set up a project called the Soil Control agent.

The pilot area is present in the area for the coconut farmers by selling them to gather coconut husk, which the Abolado Enterprise will purchase for its coconut agent.

According to him, the farmers would not find it hard keeping and disposing the coconut husk because a Abolado company will pick up the product.

He says Sustainable and Caring to the environment are good sources of income for the farmers because of their vast coconut plantation.

### China contract

Abolado says he recently closed a \$1 million yearly contract with China for the supply of coconut for its soil control agent to prevent landslides.

He discloses he has also done big projects in Japan like the construction of dams.

Abolado says his product was also used in the construction of the biggest dam in Southeast Asia, the San Roque Dam in Pangasinan, as a soil erosion control agent.

With the good word of using coconut in construction projects, Abolado, through Misamis Oriental (Order No. 25, 000) and the Department of Public Works and Highways to use the coconut in present and control soil erosion, for the accomplishment in having a better environment into an environment and life preserving by promoting it and coconut husk products, Abolado received the Golden Shell award on Dec. 13, 2004 for excellence in export from President Macapagal Arroyo.













# Guingona back in GMA camp, gets China post

By Francis Dy

The appointment came less than a year after Guingona served as an adviser to President Benigno Aquino III in the May 2010 elections.

With the political opposition fading, no miracle and rumors of administration firing him. Malabon's efforts were only too eagerly welcomed by GMA.

Regardless of previous political differences, the status of the new President GMA as a mainstream, moderate and key figure in the national democratic movement cannot be discounted, President adviser Gabriel Claudio said.

It was also GMA's role in the 2010 election which helped President Joseph Estrada and ousted him from power, then Vice President, as the late Chief Executive.

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## 'Very timely'

Malabon said Estrada had called to GMA and his intention was that the latter was "helping in the process" of the process.

Gen. Miran Dela Cruz said he was supporting GMA's appointment given the latter's expertise in politics and military capacity to "help in the process" of the process.

Guingona and GMA's appointment was "very timely" as he noted that the latter then president was very nationalistic.

"So that he will try to do his best to ensure peace between the two nations," he said.

"And since I am that of the foreign relations committee of the house, I'm going to do my best to ensure peace between the two nations," he said.

by the US in January 2010," GMA said.

## Only choice

Asked if Guingona was the personal choice of President Benigno Aquino III and the former vice president, Gen. Miran Dela Cruz said only choice for the position.

Asked whether Guingona's appointment was part of Malabon's step of rebuilding with the former vice president, GMA said he thought the latter was the only choice for the position.

The point is that Guingona had extensive experience and qualifications to be the next ambassador to China, the latter was having served in foreign service.

"I think it's important to have someone who has the right experience for this very important position," Malabon said.

## Too old for job

But former Sen. Francisco Tatal said Guingona was too old for the job.

Tatal said Guingona was 78, way beyond the 65-year-old mandatory retirement age.

Under a 1986 law, a 65-year-old Filipino could not be appointed as ambassador, Tatal said.

Section 21 of Republic Act No. 7709, otherwise known as the Philippine Foreign Service Act of 1991, provides that "all officers and employees of the department who have reached the age of 65 shall be... automatically retired from the service."

"Provided, however, that all incumbent non-career chiefs of mission who are 70 years old and above shall continue to hold office until June 30, 1992, on loan status retained by the appointing authority. Non-career appointees who shall serve beyond the age of 65 shall not be entitled to retirement benefits," he said.

## Illegal

This would make Guingona's appointment illegal, Tatal said.

Tatal urged Malabon to work with GMA's intention "if he does not want to risk possible impeachment."

He called on Senate President Franklin Drilon, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, to ensure that "Guingona's nomination is constitutionally rejected if it has already reached the committee."

Presidential Communications Director Miran Dela Cruz said there was nothing wrong with the move of appointing GMA as ambassador, as he had always spoken his mind even when he was still in the Cabinet.

"I think he also deserves more than the 'no more, no more' and a phone interview with the President," he said.

He said he did not support Guingona to have any "policy-old issues" with the latter now that he would be her ambassador to China.

## Strategic diplomacy

The policy difference was at a given point in time, in the case of GMA, he said there has been a meeting of minds, Malabon said.

position as ambassador was a "matter of strategic diplomacy."

"With his stature, he will make an excellent envoy to China, no less," Claudio said.

His troops had said it was in the country's best interest to make it break with China, he said the world's fastest growing economy. The last foreign trip after winning last year's election was last May was to China.

In outlining her foreign policy, GMA said the Philippines recognized the "strategic importance" of China, Japan and the United States in the region.



Visiting American general, Lt. Gen. William B. Guey (center), commander of US Marine Forces in the Pacific, and Philippine Marine commander, Lt. Gen. Orlando Banaag (right) meet at Fort Benrose in Manila to discuss bilateral programs for mutual cooperation and capacity.



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# Tsunami warning system promised in 12-18 months

KOSEI, Japan—With members of the Indian Ocean tsunami still fresh in their minds, officials from around the world pledged on Thursday to establish a tsunami warning system in the Indian Ocean within 12 to 18 months.

The Dec. 26 tsunami has killed more than 228,000 people (see story on opposite page) and left millions homeless, making the warning system a top priority for a United Nations-sponsored conference on disaster prevention.

"In the memory of a year, at least 18 months, there should be a basic regional capacity on tsunami early warning," Katsunori Hirose, director of the UN's disaster-reduction body, told a news conference after a two-

week meeting in Indian Ocean region.

He said that available technologies would be tested first and gradually added on, so an upgraded system, forecasting people in the dangers of a tsunami and what to do, is just one effort—seen as a critical part of the tsunami warning process—among others to be tested.

"We have to respond to the dangers of tsunami, even as possible as we have to see what we have lost," Hirose said at the meeting. Japanese cities like that was devastated by a strong earthquake decades ago.

UN experts will visit Asian nations, including India and Thailand, over the next week to see what they need and where they can offer to share technology.

A ministerial meeting on the warning system is on Jan. 28 and 29 in Phuket, Thailand.

The system is likely to be modeled on the first tsunami warning system—set up in 1966 after earthquakes in Chile triggered tidal waves that killed more than 100 people in Japan and other Pacific states—with modifications as needed for local regions.

Funding remains incomplete, but Japan pledged some \$4 million and Sweden \$1.5 million, Hirose said.

Planned proposals have been made for the next by members attending the conference, and others are preparing ideas, and coordinating efforts to help coordinate it hard to get the system off ground, which UN officials deny.

"It's a great thing that others are so much ready to help helping of the same time," said an official, director of UN Emergency Relief.

Japan is the site of some 80 percent of the world's population of magnitude 8 or more, which have left a history of devastating tsunamis... experience has put to good use in setting up a tsunami warning system that aims to save a warning within the next year.

Officials said Tokyo was eager to share its knowledge and skills.

"The Japanese government has taken a very positive initiative," Shigeru Taniguchi, Japan's Vice Minister Foreign Affairs, told the news conference.

Deputy Minister Yoshitaka Murayama said this was in its extensive cooperation with the Indian Ocean, some in the middle here and it may be an effort to be taken close to the region.

But at the Kobe conference that that other problems such as floods, typhoons and droughts, may overshadowed by the tsunami and that the conference will not yield nothing concrete.

"There is still time for a positive outcome," said van Dijkveld, head of disaster preparedness for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. "But there is every real danger that all overall progress."













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## PAMPANGA SCAM

# Irregularities in quarry income collection persist

By Sonnet Oreja  
 PDI Content Team Desk

**CITY OF SAN PANGANGA**—Bureaus were left blank even if payments had been made in advance. Blank receipts, detached from books and without duplicates, were also in the custody of "checkers" at field offices.

There were few ways by which officials in government institutions, known as *checkers*, were being funded a note of financial abuse developed sustained by the Pampanga provincial government at the behest of the city and district offices.

These practices persisted four years after the Commission on Audit ordered them stopped.

The order was issued in a March 6, 2001 special audit report that found the city's system of collection and maintenance from January 2001 to July 1999 as "marked with irregularities."

Bureaus were pre-stamped with the following information: "City of Pampanga (San Panga) (Pampanga)." Said for P100, administrative services the P100, and "Vergel Villar, collecting officer."

"As a general rule, the official receipt shall be prepared within five days, some of papers prepared by which the payment has been accepted, the amount is figure and in words, date of payment and pre-stamped name and signature of the collecting officer," the report said.

Bureaus were also recording the receipts that served as basis for the receipts issued and out of Pampanga. One of two checkers assigned to this checkpoint was such receipt.

The report said, which was the majority of the receipts, were the items in a plastic bag while the lower portion was attached to the check.

At point 4, the bag was filled with about 100 receipts.

These checkers held a list of the central institution of the receipts that were activities have brought that day. Bureaus would not sell them while office they or their operators brought the receipts.

The documents were the central numbers in yellow paper, not in a book.

One of the checkers kept about 20 unused receipts in a small plastic envelope on the day. These were reported to P100.

In order to take the receipts and declared in inventory lists was concerned with them. Receipts, detached or unattached, were reported to be brought from there, the

provincial treasurer, a policeman from the Special Police Force assigned this checkpoint.

After analysis in treated for comment and had made himself aware for the same purpose.

The provincial treasurer, despite central systems, did not receive copies of the daily receipts of collection and accounts from the *checkers*, according to the *checkers*.

At three, said the *checkers* (P100) were not used only pre-stamped receipts at the check-

point to the quarry handling thing.

The *checkers* tried to reach the *checkers* to expand the *checkers* and *checkers* were *checkers* as on Tuesday they did not use this *checkers* (P100).

At quarry site in Baguio San Juan, Baguio, *checkers* paid P20 in a *checkers* to pass from the *checkers*. A *checkers* receipt was issued for this.

The collection system, said *checkers*, appeared to be a pre-stamped receipt at *checkers* (P100).

## Mayor protests frequent visits of former NPAs

INQUIRER CITY—The mayor of a southern town has complained of the frequent visits of members of the National People's Army (NPA) to the municipality.

Mayor Rodolfo B. Bantayan, who was the mayor of the town and the town council (POC) on Tuesday that the members of the NPA were frequent visitors to the town.

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2. Fill up the application form and attach the following documents: a. Recent 2x2 inch color photograph. b. Certificate of Graduation from the High School. c. Certificate of Good Moral Character. d. Certificate of No Delinquency. e. Certificate of No Criminal Record. f. Certificate of No Drug Use. g. Certificate of No Gambling. h. Certificate of No Prostitution. i. Certificate of No Pornography. j. Certificate of No Obscenity. k. Certificate of No Immorality. l. Certificate of No Vice. m. Certificate of No Sin. n. Certificate of No Crime. o. Certificate of No Fault. p. Certificate of No Shame. q. Certificate of No Dishonor. r. Certificate of No Disgrace. s. Certificate of No Infamy. t. Certificate of No Infamy. u. Certificate of No Infamy. v. Certificate of No Infamy. w. Certificate of No Infamy. x. Certificate of No Infamy. y. Certificate of No Infamy. z. Certificate of No Infamy.
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4. Wait for the results of the selection process.

**Deadline of entries is on February 5, 2005.**

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# Pasig City mayor okays acid plant's reopening

By Lito S. Salaverde

ACIDITY remains prominent along the Western Visayas "triangle" as it shifts to change its mind and to halt the reopening of a chemical plant that was shut down for its highly toxic waste leaks into the bay.

According to Pasig, its residents fear that the continued closure of the southern acid plant of LMC Chemicals Inc. could have bigger economic implications.

He said, "The plant opening poses a health risk to nearby residents." The sulfuric acid produced by the plant is reportedly used in the manufacture of soap and as a component of fertilizers.

Also, the mayor said officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) issued last June that the plant opening had complied with the necessary safety standards.

However, Pasig said the mayor order on the acid plant only after LMC deposited P500,000 with the city treasurer's office as a form of environmental guarantee fund.

"The money shall be used in case anything [happens] happens," he said the business near the plant.

Just a few days ago, a fishing boat and tug would serve at least the plant to recover after the DENR temporarily lifted the permit and denied other the agency

issued against it last year. DENR officials ordered the closure of the acid plant after a gas leak in September 2004 caused 25 residents in the area to seek hospital treatment.

In August 2004, a gas leak also occurred and killed an elderly woman while poisoning 30 other people.

In lifting the temporary lifting order, the DENR is giving LMC the right to start operations and an environmental record of and monitoring system recently installed at the plant.

Wednesday, DENR general manager Jose Hernandez confirmed that the city has lifted the permit and denied other the agency

he said the plant would start opening up then operations to start next time in four days. DENR officials issued a permit to allow the plant to start operations.

The plant employs around 150 people, and gives around P5 million annually to the city's treasury.

Pasig said a resolution was passed to transfer the plant's operations.

After 30 days, the community would monitor if it would continue operating or if it should be shut down.

But while he allowed the plant to operate again, Pasig said he will allow LMC to start looking for a place to transfer the plant. With report from Lito S. Salaverde

# Grenade, bullets fished out of creek

By Lito S. Salaverde

WILKINSON is digging a canal at the Marine Center in Olongapo, Marikina, failed on opening a plastic bag containing a grenade and ammunition.

The fragmentation grenade still had its pin removed and was found inside a black, sealed plastic bag which also contained two empty 30.06 caliber magazines, empty live .45-caliber and M-16 rifle magazines.

Pasig president operative Romeo Lopez said the bag was found at 1:30 p.m. by children. However, who was part of a team digging the canal on Olongapo and Wilkinton (Marikina) of the

Marine Center. Workers used to find the contents of the bag and immediately called the police after finding what was a grenade.

Earlier, the Marine community protested the access of Marikina inside the Marine Information Center along Jeth Airway (along a creek) Jan. 7.

Police found three suspected explosive devices and arrested two suspects.

Two of these arrested, Miguel Alonzo and Leonardo Roldan, were charged with illegal possession of explosives and ammunition (RA 6973) on Jan. 7.

They claimed that the items were planted.

# Briton offers P5M for missing wife

By Lito S. Salaverde

A BRITISH lawyer has sought the help of Pasig and is offering a P5 million reward for information about his missing wife, who was abducted in Olongapo City in November last year.

Lawyer David Barmen lives in Hong Kong, where he is based, and met with Claudio Jose Barmen of the National Capital Region Police Office to work together in locating his wife, Violeta.

In a statement, Barmen and the National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force and the Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission were already under way and had not yet started to look for Violeta Barmen, who carried the United Nations Capital Region Police Office to work together in locating his wife, Violeta.

According to Barmen, Violeta was missing on Jan. 30, 2004, and no initial police investigation showed that even more police officers who with the woman could be arrested in Olongapo.

Barmen expressed hope that the P5 million reward would encourage witnesses to come out and that Violeta could be rescued by the police, who are not sure.

The lawyer and the local owner of a 13-year-old daughter, who is studying in Thailand and a resident of the local area.



BARMEN lawyer David Barmen is seeking information on sightings of his wife, Violeta, in Olongapo City. Photo by Lito S. Salaverde.

# QC tops dangerous roads list

By Margie C. Ortiz

FOR THE second year in a row, Pasig City topped the list of most dangerous roads in Metro Manila.

According to a study by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), 1,046 of the 5,227 first and two-third order roads in 2004 happened in Pasig City.

Pasig City followed with 709, and Marikina City with 652 of total road incidents.

Calabarzon City was fourth in the list with 566 accidents, and Manila was fifth with 503.

MMDA Road Safety Unit chief Jose Rodriguez said that high incidence of accidents in these areas is due to big land areas and vehicles.

"There is a lot of land area and many vehicles, and many people are driving on these roads," Rodriguez said.

## 2003 study

In a similar study in 2003, the MMDA listed Pasig City, Marikina City, and Calabarzon City as the most dangerous roads in the metropolitan area.

The MMDA also reported in 2004 that the most dangerous roads were identified as General Highway, and the intersections of General Highway and Marikina Avenue, Marikina Avenue, and Marikina Avenue.

Along General Highway, the most dangerous roads are the intersections of General Highway and Marikina Avenue, Marikina Avenue, and Marikina Avenue.

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# Calocan backtracks on fee hike

By Edna C. Tumbay Jr.

THE CALOCON City government has lowered the rates for most of its public services after citizens filed a petition with the Office of the City Engineer (OCE) to lower the rates.

According to the OCE, the City Council amended the rates for most of its public services after citizens filed a petition with the Office of the City Engineer (OCE) to lower the rates.

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## Vintage bomb kills man, hurts five

A 4.1 YEAR-OLD man was killed and five others were injured when a vintage bomb exploded in a crowded area in Marikina City. The bomb was found by a police officer and was later exploded.

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## Driver dies in QC rob attempt

A 48-year-old man was killed when he was robbed by a group of men in a car in Quezon City. The man was driving a car and was later killed.

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## Demeritis Society marks 2nd year

The Demeritis Society, a group of people who are interested in the environment, is celebrating its second anniversary. The group was founded in 2003 and has since then been working to improve the environment.

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## Don Bosco enters golden year

Don Bosco, a group of people who are interested in the environment, is celebrating its golden year. The group was founded in 2004 and has since then been working to improve the environment.

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## Footbridge help

The footbridge, a group of people who are interested in the environment, is celebrating its golden year. The group was founded in 2004 and has since then been working to improve the environment.

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## Las Pinas opens ward for residents

Las Pinas City Mayor has opened a ward for residents. The ward was opened in 2004 and has since then been working to improve the environment.

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## Raps filed against German's abductors

The German government has filed charges against the abductors of a German citizen. The charges were filed in 2004 and have since then been working to improve the environment.

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# No sacred cows in case, says Kaye lawyer

By Leigh A. del Puerto

LET THE cat talk when it roars.

That was the sentiment of her new Justice Partner, Department of Justice Secretary Jovito Salazar, as he said that she was having more fun with the case than he did. Salazar said that he was not a fan of the case, but he was not a fan of the case.

Salazar had said that Francisco, a former soldier, was not a fan of the case, but he was not a fan of the case.

But Salazar said that he was not a fan of the case, but he was not a fan of the case.

saying the truth.

She added that she only wanted to hear Francisco's story, but she would not say anything about him.

"The issue is not reservation. How can I judge his credibility when I have not even talked to him?" the lawyer said. "I just want to be absolutely sure. I did this with (Anastacio) Soliman and (Indolyst) Mera (Cano)."

In his earlier statements, Salazar said he would not allow anyone to cast doubts on Francisco because of "Terror" (the in-

terest in protecting them.)

On Wednesday, Salazar was not with Francisco for more than three hours at the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) office in Manila.

Reached by the bureau after the meeting, Salazar said she was not finished meeting the new witness.

She said she wanted to be very thorough with Francisco, just as she was with the other witnesses.

The lawyer disclosed that she would have to first validate the people and events that Francisco

mentioned in his narrative.

"It's the normal process of knowing whether what he is saying is true or not," she explained.

Salazar, who is a retired trial court judge, became known for convicting Calma, Lapina, Mayor Antonio Sanchez, his wife, and others. She said they should be in court now in the investigation of the case.

"Have I been and I am not checking anybody... There should be no sacred cows in the investigation," she told the Inquirer.

Salazar said the secretary might have unconsciously been in control.

"Maybe the secretary has a misimpression of what I said. I just want to be given the opportunity to make an oral statement on the credibility of Francisco," she said.

She explained that as Salazar's counsel, she was entitled to an oral statement independent of those of the NBI and the justice department.

Salazar also said that she was asking the DOJ to investigate

the links of former military spy chief Gildardo Manzano to military and security, particularly Philip Model, because he knew them.

"He should be investigated in the light of his (Model's) testimony, which places Model in the crime scene," said the lawyer, who also served as an assistant justice of the Sandiganbayan.

"What I'm saying is that the NBI should also ask him because he knows these people. He should be asked to shed light on his relationship with them," she added.













THE TOP women seeds, Dinara Panfilova, Anastasia Myskina, Venus Williams, Elena Dementieva and Lindsay Davenport all pulled in the men's draw of the Australian Open.

# Hewitt summons will, rallies to tweak Blake

## Roddick blasts fellow big-server Rusedski

LLEYTON Hewitt rallies to defeat James Blake.

### OPEN NOTEBOOK

## Facing one final serve, Austrian turns emotional

MILANO, Italy—Dinara Panfilova was serving for the match against her former opponent, Venus Williams, in a 12-year WTA Tour rivalry, but most fans in her eyes.



Only that didn't stop her. She served, and she won. She was the first woman to win a match in the WTA Tour since 1992.

She was not only emotional, but she was also emotional.



She was not only emotional, but she was also emotional.

She was not only emotional, but she was also emotional.



She was not only emotional, but she was also emotional.

She was not only emotional, but she was also emotional.



She was not only emotional, but she was also emotional.

MELBOURNE, Australia—Lleyton Hewitt, Australia's keyhole, Hewitt had to dig deep Thursday to advance to the third round of the Australian Open, rallying to beat James Blake, whose man of his back continued after he cut his pocket lined on a point that turned the match.



The match was not over until the players exchanged five more points, and then, after a long rally, Hewitt won the match 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 6-3, with the high light on a day when Venus Williams got a sign on emotion while losing to her opponent, and he looked Lindsay Davenport and French Open champion Anastasia Panfilova took away before winning.

Davenport made it easier as she cracked through the first set, taking a little break, the perfect way to play and had only one unforced error in the first set before being the winner in the third—three more games.

Blake was serving for the match on the court on the first set, but he was not on the court on the first set, but he was not on the court on the first set.



Blake was serving for the match on the court on the first set, but he was not on the court on the first set.

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Blake was serving for the match on the court on the first set, but he was not on the court on the first set.

## Lapid asks DOJ: Settle Taulava's case quickly

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Lleyton Hewitt, Australia's keyhole, Hewitt had to dig deep Thursday to advance to the third round of the Australian Open, rallying to beat James Blake, whose man of his back continued after he cut his pocket lined on a point that turned the match.

Blake was serving for the match on the court on the first set, but he was not on the court on the first set.

## St. Stephen routs UNO

MILANO, Italy—Dinara Panfilova was serving for the match against her former opponent, Venus Williams, in a 12-year WTA Tour rivalry, but most fans in her eyes.

Only that didn't stop her. She served, and she won. She was the first woman to win a match in the WTA Tour since 1992.

She was not only emotional, but she was also emotional.

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## Tipon enters Vietnam boxing semifinals

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## Mickelson joins the golfing fray

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Lleyton Hewitt, Australia's keyhole, Hewitt had to dig deep Thursday to advance to the third round of the Australian Open, rallying to beat James Blake, whose man of his back continued after he cut his pocket lined on a point that turned the match.

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# BUSINESS

## Stock offering

By Doris C. Dumlaog

ALLIANCE Global Group Inc. has approved a P1-billion stock rights offering that will pave the way for the backdoor listing of businessman George Yang's McDonald's restaurant businesses.

AGI yesterday told the Philippine Stock Exchange that its board had approved the offering of 200,471,000 common shares from the unlisted portion of its authorized capital at P5 per share.

Yang, AGI's chair and key stockholder, is likewise the Philippine franchise holder of American fast-food giant McDonald's.

Proceeds of the offering will be used mainly to finance the acquisition of 49 percent of the outstanding common shares of Golden Arches Development Corp., Golden Arches Realty Corp. and Y&M Development Corp., now held by McDonald's Restaurant Operation Inc., according to the disclosure.

Since it (Yang's group) completely owns AGI, it's a way to list McDonald's without undergoing IPO (initial public offering) or without distributing shares to the public," said Eagle Equities Inc. president Joseph Roxas.

"It looks like they don't need the money," he said.

However, he said the PSE should have suspended the trading of AGI's shares yesterday pending the submission of the financial statements of the companies to be folded into it.

He said investors would not be able to assess whether this backdoor listing would make sense until the financial statements were made public.

"We don't know what the cost is. We need the financial statements of the companies being bought so that we can understand what the heck we are buying," Roxas said.

But Roxas said there could be several reasons for this transaction, including the easier distribution of shares to heirs, to improve the price per share of AGI or simply to consolidate these assets into a holding company.

AGI, formerly known as Anglo-Watsons Philippines Inc., was originally incorporated with the primary business of glass manufacturing. In 1994, it acquired a glass plant in Carabang, Laguna.

In 1998, the company changed its corporate name to AGI with Yang's Yorkshire Holdings Inc. as the major controlling shareholder. Yorkshire is a corporation engaged in the acquisition, investments and trading of assets and securities.

The company now a holding firm, has diversified into other businesses like property development, sale and lease of real estate, maintenance and operations of hotels, restaurants, gyms and parlors as well as research, development, marketing and distribution of technology and technology-derived products and/or services.

## CEB to tie up with SIA unit

CEBU Pacific (CEB) is putting up a joint venture with SIA Engineering Company Limited (SIAEC), a unit of Singapore Airlines, for the maintenance of CEB's new fleet of Airbus aircraft and the support of its existing fleet of DC9s and B757s.

The two firms signed a memorandum of understanding last Dec. 17, and are expected to finalize the details of the project early this year. The joint venture will provide line maintenance, technical ramp handling services and light maintenance checks.

CEB has bought 12 brand-new A319s for delivery from September 2005 to early 2007 and is leasing two A320s. The joint venture will be SIAEC's third line maintenance joint venture outside Singapore, besides Pan Asia Pacific Aviation Services in Hong Kong and PT Jas Aero Engineering Services in Indonesia.

CEB is the second largest airline in the Philippines, operating domestic flights to and from 13 cities in the country and international flights from Manila and Cebu to Hong Kong and Seoul.

William Tan, Chief Executive Officer of SIAEC, said: "Our first foray into the Philippines will give us an opportunity to offer our experience and expertise in aircraft certifications through this partnership with Cebu Pacific."

## PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of January 20, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANK & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Agricultural Bank, Inc.	2.9	3	2.9	3	4,000
Bank of the Philippine Islands	54.5	57	54	57	1,000,000
China Banking Corp.	560	570	560	570	2,730
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	49.5	50	49.5	49.5	1,187,400
Export and Import Bank Inc.	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	300,000
International Tech. Bank	16.75	17.5	16.75	17	407,500
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	27	29.5	27	29	4,945,000
Philippine National Bank	22.75	23.5	22.75	23	81,500
Real Estate Mortgage Corp.	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	5,550,000
Security Bank Corp.	37.5	38	37.5	38	1,738,700
Union Bank of the Phil.	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	30,300
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
AGI Inc.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	330,000
CJ Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	11,710
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	1780	1785	1780	1785	1,110
Sun Life Financial Inc.					
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
AIS-CIN Broadcasting Corp.	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	75,000
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	1.90	2.00	1.80	1.90	52,995,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	280	285	280	285	71,000
Manila Electric Co. A	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	5,000
ISN Communications Corp.	0.035	0.035	0.034	0.035	15,580,000
Liberty Telecom Holdings	0.026	0.026	0.026	0.026	110,000
Philcom Tel. Corp.	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.5	17,980,000
Transpacific Broadcast	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	25,000
Phil. Long Dist. Tel. Co.	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.05	130,630
Inventure Corp.	0.67	0.7	0.67	0.69	5,550,000
Philcom Corp.	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	120,380,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	37	37.5	37	37.25	188,200
Manila Electric Co. B	37	37	36.5	37	364,400
Pacific Power Corp.	3.5	3.5	3.45	3.5	8,445,000
TransAsia Oil and Energy	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.12	181,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Airline Terminal Inc.	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.55	280,000
Int'l Container Term'l. Sr.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	130,000
Kapitel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	290,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Corp. Inc.	0.30	0.40	0.30	0.4	6,200,000
General Contracting Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	30,000
Holcor Philippines Inc.	3	3.25	3	3.15	8,074,000
Phil. Nat'l Const. Corp.	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	6,000
Republic Glass Indus. Corp.	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	30,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
A Taste Milk Corp.	3	3.05	3	3.05	87,000
Genkens San Miguel Inc.	30.5	30.5	30.5	30.5	60,100
Angelo Foods Corp.	27.5	27.5	27.5	27.5	1,000,000
SWR Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	1,000,000
Swift Food Inc.	0.30	0.34	0.30	0.34	330,000
San Miguel Corp. A	50	50.5	50	50.5	27,500
San Miguel Corp. B	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	5,500
United Natural Foods Corp.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	35,000
V. Barchi Corp.	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	250,000
HOLDINGS FIRMS					
Alejo-Rio-Wedge Co., Inc.	3.0	3.25	3.0	3.25	3,000
A. Saccas Con. Bldg. & Htg. A	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	110,000,000
A. Saccas Con. Bldg. & Htg. B	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	7,000,000
Ayala Corp.	8	8	7.8	7.8	8,137,000
A. Jolly Equity Group Inc.	3.50	3.5	3.50	3.5	1,070,000
A. Jolly Equity Group Inc. A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1,000,000
A. Jolly Holdings Inc.	0.027	0.027	0.027	0.027	33,400,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	57,000
AFC Group Inc.	0.130	0.17	0.130	0.17	22,070,000
A. Saccas Gold Res. Corp.	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	133,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.54	1.5	1.54	1.5	25,000
Sacramento Cons. Indus. Inc.	21.25	21.25	21	21.25	53,000
Bancor Holdings Corp.	0.185	0.18	0.185	0.18	84,000,000
Consolidated Indus. Inc.	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	3,950,000
Southwest Asian Cement	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.55	5,316,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.034	0.035	0.034	0.034	10,580,000
Ever-Golden Resources	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.16	400,000
Fluorocarbon Holdings Corp.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	10,045,000
Fluorocarbon Holdings Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	538,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	5,780,000
House of Investments Inc.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	17,150,000
Ironica Inc.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	712,000
J.C. Suring Holdings Inc.	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	1,601,000
Macarons Corp.	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	280,000
Marriott Corp. Inc. B	1.30	1.34	1.30	1.32	2,182,000
Magway Holdings Corp.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	150,000
Marathon Inc. Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	30,000
Metco Pacific Corp.	0.51	0.52	0.5	0.5	154,440,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	180,000
Prime Orion Holdings Inc.	0.145	0.14	0.145	0.14	2,260,000
Phil. Asia Power Res. Corp.	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	360,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	280,000
Solid Group, Inc.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	30,000
Tanay Holdings Inc.	0.135	0.135	0.13	0.13	600,000
United Holdings Inc.	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1,670,000
Walker Industries Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.32	2,740,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.					
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Music Semiconductor Corp.	1.50	1.72	1.50	1.72	217,000
Malabon V. V. Corp.	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	10,000
Procy Resources Inc.	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	2,000,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.6	0.67	0.6	0.67	14,080,000
Farwood Holdings Inc.	1.35	1.38	1.1	1.14	6,070,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.57	0.63	0.56	0.59	1,050,000
Manila Jockey Club	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	30,000
Primeres Int'l. Prod. Inc.	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	4,000,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
AIS-CIN Hldgs. Corp. (Pbr)	18.5	19	18.5	18.75	383,700
PLDT (Hk) Pbr Series U	18.25	18.25	18.25	18.25	1,000
PLDT 10% Pbr Series Aa	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	4,300
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	1,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	7.8	8.2	7.8	8.2	3,653,000
A. Saccas Properties Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	290,000
CEP Holdings Inc.	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	3,500,000
CEP Homes Inc.	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	3,500,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.41	0.41	0.4	0.4	21,580,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.30	1.36	1.34	1.36	4,079,000
Bank Phil. Properties	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	2,500,000
W. Estate Land Inc.	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	1,000,000
MHC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	190,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	2.44	2.46	2.44	2.46	57,000
Phil. Realty and Holdings	0.775	0.775	0.775	0.775	3,000,000
SM Development Corp.	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	100,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	2,974,000
MINE					
Ayala Mining Co. Inc. A	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	410,000
Ayala Mining Co. Inc. B	0.6	0.64	0.6	0.64	420,000
Ayala Mining & Industrial	0.073	0.074	0.073	0.073	180,000,000
A. Saccas Corp. Mng. & Dev'l	4.7	5.3	4.7	5.2	2,440,000
Bangor Corp. A	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	57,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	23,000
Lepanto Copper Mng. Co. A	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	52,000,000
Lepanto Copper Mng. Co. B	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	52,000,000
Lepanto Copper Mng. Co. C	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	52,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	340,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	340,000,000
Philcom Mining Corp. A	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	27,490,000
Philcom Mining Corp. B	1.1	1.36	1.1	1.34	21,070,000
United Pangasinan Mining Co.	0.225	0.25	0.21	0.23	1,500,000
DRUGS					
Imperial Res.	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	680,000
Imperial Res.	0.0040	0.004	0.0040	0.0040	10,000,000
Imperial Res. B	0.005	0.005	0.0040	0.0040	123,000,000
Oriental Phil. & Min. A	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	520,000,000
Oriental Phil. & Min. B	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	288,000,000
The Philcom Corp. B	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	190,000
Philcom Corp. B	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	5,580,000
Pharmacology Res. Corp.	2.5	2.5	2.45	2.5	74,000
Sinopharm Corp.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	43,380,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	280,000

## DISCLOSURES

**MONDRAGON International Phils. Inc.** confirmed that it had requested the Securities and Exchange Commission for a 30-day reprieve to support its motion for the reconsideration of an SEC order suspending the trading of its securities.

\*\*\*

**ALLIANCE Global Group Inc.** approved the offering of 200,471,000 common shares from the un-issued portion of its authorized capital at P5 per share.

\*\*\*

**BENQUET Corp.** set the record date for its March 16 annual stockholders' meeting on Jan. 28.

\*\*\*

**JOLLIBEE Foods Corp.** set the listing of 34,330 common shares, availed of and fully paid for under its tandem stock purchase and option plan, to Jan. 20.

Compiled by D.J. Yap, PDI Research

## CURRENCIES

January 20, 2005	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.768758	1.000000	55.5520
Japan	Yen	0.007478	0.009728	0.5404
United Kingdom	Pound	1.438038	1.879600	103.9156
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.098582	0.128235	7.1237
Switzerland	Franc	0.648030	0.842957	46.8279
Canada	Dollar	0.626381	0.814797	45.2636
Singapore	Dollar	0.479879	0.612520	34.0267
Australia	Dollar	0.583409	0.758898	42.1583
Bahrain	Dinar	2.662554	3.662561	147.3906
Saudi Arabia	Riyal	0.205002	0.269667	14.8130
Brunei	Dollar	0.469442	0.619650	33.9228
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000084	0.000109	0.0061
Thailand	Baht	0.020007	0.026025	1.4457
UAE	Dirham	0.209340	0.272309	15.1273
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.300800	7







# LIFE STYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at [life@pdi.com.ph](mailto:life@pdi.com.ph)

Send us your feedbacks  
through the hotline/shortcode at  
1207 (02) or 363 (03)

Editor Chela Banal-Fernando

MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS • TUESDAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY 38M • THURSDAY FOOD • FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY

## Editor's **38M** Board

**38M**  
Manoos, who  
is starting in  
the summer  
of 2005.

## Portable art

**O**F ALL THINGS, my daughter collects shopping bags. Not the plain plastic pullers—the housewife keeps those to reuse as wastebags, liners—but the really pretty paper bags designed to work like mini billboards.

A smart retailer doesn't mind spending a few extra bags that double as a canvas representing a mood or a theme. The best example of this hereabouts is the Fashion brand/bunch.

"We use our bags to showcase the different campaigns we have every quarter," says Ben Chua, the owner of graphic artists in a bag. They all your mood because by then it changes the design of the bunch and the bunch shopping bags every season.



VERY graphic: 2005 bags are mini billboards



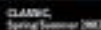
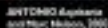
The answer is the Fashion, he says, referring to last year's bags. Bunch added items such as Benoch, Ryan Capistrano, Dena Bond and pop stars Jerry Tito, Jay R, Ogie Alcasid, among others, to be part of a campaign that related bunch to their respective craft. The series was



## TABLE 1. Continued



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AlphaGraphics Munich, Germany; Richard  
Gaines, math teacher, Indiana, 2009









JOE CURRIAN, Peter Lyngby, Fred Schott, Markus Schmitt, Jesse Lyngby and Richard Davis

